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Guyanese President Visits DPRK

President Arthur Chung of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana paid a state visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from April 30 to May 4 at the invitation of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, according to KCNA reports from Pyongyang.

Arthur Chung, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, and madame arrived in Pyongyang by special plane on April 30.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife warmly met President Arthur Chung and madame at the airport.

Arriving together with President Arthur Chung and madame were Desmond Hoyte, Member of the Central Committee of the People's National Congress and Minister of Economic Development of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, and madame; John Carter, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the CRG to the People's Republic of China, and madame; Lloyd Searwar, Head of the Political Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Neil Storey, Chief of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and others.

Present at the airport were Comrade Pak Sung Chul and his wife, Comrade Kang Ryang Uk, Comrade Ho Dam, Comrade Kong Jin Tae and Comrade Hwang Jang Yop and other guiding personnel.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and their wives in Pyongyang were also present at the airport.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung firmly shook hands with President Arthur Chung when he alighted from the plane.

A grand welcome function was held at the airport for Arthur Chung, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

The national anthems of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and our country were played and a 21 gun-salute boomed.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and President Arthur Chung reviewed a guard of honour of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

After the function, the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and President Arthur Chung waved their hands to the crowd in acknowledgement of their warm welcome and got into a car and headed for the city.

Hundreds of thousands of working people in Pyongyang warmly welcomed the goodwill envoy of the Guyanese people on the route.

That day President Kim Il Sung, together with his wife, received the Guyanese President and madame. In the evening, a grand banquet was arranged by President Kim Il Sung at the People's Palace of Culture in honour of the Guyanese President and madame.

President Kim Il Sung firmly shook hands with President Arthur Chung of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana when he alighted from plane. (KCNA Radiophoto)

Guyanese President Arthur Chung and madame on May 1 visited historic Mangyongdae. That day they also inspected the Red Flag Mangyongdae Revolutionary School and the Central Industrial-Agricultural Exhibition. In the evening, the revolutionary opera "Song of Kumgang-san Mountain" was staged at the Pyongyang Grand Theatre in their honour.

In the following day, the Guyanese President and his party inspected the Institute of National Economy and the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace. They also appreciated the mass gymnastic display "Song of Korea," performed by students and children of Pyongyang at the Moranbong Stadium.

President Kim Il Sung, in company with his wife, on May 3 called on the Guyanese President and madame at the guest house where they stayed. On the same day President Arthur Chung and his party visited the Kumsong Tractor Plant and the Chongsan Cooperative Farm. Madame Doreen Chung, wife of the Guyanese President, inspected the Pyongyang September 15 Weekly Nursery.

President Arthur Chung of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and madame left Pyongyang on May 4 by special plane after winding up their itinerary. President Kim Il Sung and his wife went out to the airport and warmly saw off the Guyanese goodwill envoy. President Kim Il Sung and President Arthur Chung firmly shook hands with each other.

President KIM IL SUNG:
"Wait and See How Carter Fulfils His Pledges"

"We have to wait and see how Carter fulfils his pledges because it is only a few months since he took office," President Kim Il Sung commented for the first time on the Carter administration since its inauguration in an interview with the executive managing editor of the Japanese daily Yomiuri Shimbun on a visit to the DPRK, April 23.

In the interview he said, "I think this talking about the gradual withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea over a period of four to five years suggests that there would be no troops pullout from south Korea while he (Carter) is in office."

President Kim Il Sung answered a host of questions raised by the Japanese editor Isato Tsunetsu. The full text of his answers was reported on April 30 by the DPRK's official news agency KCNA(See page 2) and his interview with the Yomiuri Shimbun editor was front-paged by the national Japanese daily and its English language edition Daily Yomiuri.

In the interview the President revealed his evaluation of the Carter administration, gave a profound account for the question of Korea's reunification and that of the relations between Korea and Japan, and briefed the prospects of economic construction in the DPRK.

In the first place, President Kim Il Sung commented on the Carter administration.

While appreciating Carter's campaign pledges to withdraw the U.S. troops from south Korea and take sanction against a regime violating human rights and his recent decision to lift the ban on trip to the DPRK, President Kim Il Sung stressed the fact that what Carter said in his campaign pledges differs from what he has done since.

Calling attention to the fact that Carter's associates run counter to his commitments, the President said, Carter himself has made no statements about this. If they do not represent Carter's will, he added, further study is needed as to his administration. It is for this reason that Pyongyang has not yet made any critical remark about the administration, the President explained.

Disclosing that the Carter administration continues to give military aid to the south Korean authorities and stages joint military exercises with them, the President said, the administration is obviously going against the campaign pledges in this point.

As for the reunification question, he declared, the solution of the Korean issue depends on the Koreans themselves. For this purpose, the President emphasized, it is necessary, first of all, for the south Korean people to awaken and rise up to bring about the democratization of society.

Reviewing the south Koreans' struggle for democracy, the President stated, the demand for democracy is growing among the south Korean people.

Korea, he stressed, must be reunified on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity. He added, there can not be any solution to the reunification question apart from these principles.

The President renewed his principled stand on the north-south dialogue that if south Korean authorities sincerely want reunification Pyongyang can have a dialogue with the south Korean ruling Democratic Republican Party, too.

Referring to the Korea-Japan relations, it, he said, largely depends on whether the Japanese government takes an independent road or follows U.S. policy. There will be no great progress in the Korea-Japan relations before Pyongyang's relations with Washington are improved, he added.

Saying that the DPRK would not demand Tokyo has only ties with it and sever ties with Seoul, the President disclosed, what the DPRK expects from the Japanese government is that it refrains from acts detrimental to Korea's reunification.

He demanded that Tokyo do not ask for the permanent presence of the U.S. troops in south Korea.

President Kim Il Sung referred to the prospects of economic construction. He disclosed that the DPRK would embark upon another seven-year plan from 1978. The new economic plan is intended to double the output of major manufactured goods. As a result, it is planned to produce 7-8 million tons of steel, 70-80 million tons of coal, 60,000 million kwh of electric power, and 12-13 million tons of cement.

Democratic Front Brands "Continental Shelf Pact" as Illegal

PYONGYANG (KCNA)—The Japanese authorities must immediately give up the deliberation for the ratification of the illegal and criminal "agreement on the continental shelf" they "signed" with the south Korean puppets, which is opposed and rejected by the entire Korean people, declared the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland in its statement dated April 29.

Our people fwill never recognize the "right to develop the continental shelf" which the Japanese reactionaries are going to wrest in conspiracy with the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, a pack of traitors who cannot represent the Korean people, and will never tolerate their aggression and pillage in our country, the statement said.

The statement exposed the frantic attempt of the Japanese reactionaries to have the "agreement" "ratified" at the current session of the Diet by whatever cost to secure a base for the plunder of raw materials abroad by manipulating the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, namely seek the seabed resources of the South Sea of our country and, taking advantage of this, launch into a more undisguised political, economic and military aggression on south Korea.

In its mean and despicable entreaty for the "ratification" of the "agreement" at the Japanese Diet, the Pak Jung Hi traitor clique seek to tighten its political and military tieup with the Japanese reactionaries by giving the latter a pretext for the "protection of concessions."

The statement said:

The question of the continental shelf of the southwest sea of our country which the Japanese reactionaries and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are going to bring to a final settlement is a question concerning the national sovereignty and national resources of the entire Korean people, which no one is allowed to encroach upon and which must never be settled against the fundamental interests and absolute will of our people.

DPRK Parliamentarian Group Arriving Here

A parliamentarian delegation of the DPRK is visiting Japan May 11. Japan's chief cabinet secretary Somoda disclosed May 2 at a press conference in Tokyo.

This is the first time the Japanese government has decided to permit the entry of a group of DPRK politicians since a DPRK parliamentarian group visited Tokyo to attend an Inter-Parliamentary Union general meeting held here in 1974.

The DPRK and Japan have no formal diplomatic relations, while Tokyo has so far maintained a close ties with Seoul.

The DPRK delegation is invited to visit Japan by the suprapartisan Diet-men's League for Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship. The chief objective is said to discuss the renewal of the bilateral private trade agreement which expired at the end of 1976.

The eight-member delegation is led by Hyon Chun Guk, Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly and Vice-Chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, who was Ambassador to China until the end of January.

Rodong Sinmun Supports Ethiopia's Expulsion of U.S. Personnel

Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK) in a commentary April 29 expresses full support to an anti-imperialist independent step of weighty importance taken by the Ethiopian Government recently.

The Provisional Military Administrative Council closed down the consular offices of such aggressive NATO member nations as the United States, Italy, Belgium, France and Britain in Asmara and decided to close the "military assistance and advisory group," "navy medical research unit," "information centre" and "satellite radio and communications station" of the United States and ordered their personnel to leave Ethiopia, the commentary says, and continues:

This is an independent step of weighty importance taken by Ethiopia against the Western imperialists who have incessantly interfered in her internal affairs and hampered her independent development.

The recent determined step of the Ethiopian Government is a very proper step taken for the consolidation of the country's independence, national dignity and the interests of the revolutionary development.

This strikingly demonstrates the strong revolutionary will of the Ethiopian Government and people to firmly defend the revolutionary gains from all manner of interference and aggression of the imperialists and carry their revolutionary cause of independence against imperialism to completion. (KCNA)

REUNIFICATION POLICY (6)

(Continued from the previous issue)

-PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION-

Peaceful reunification means realizing the eventual reunification of the country through bilateral negotiations, and not with the use of arms.

The present different social systems in north and south Korea are never a cause of tension between them. The present danger of war on the Korean Peninsula has been created and increased by the United States and the puppet Seoul "regime," contrary to the will of the Korean people.

Without foreign forces' meddling, national reunification will be achieved by the Koreans in a peaceful way.

In order to maintain the peaceful reunification principle, both sides should stop slandering each other and causing antagonisms. But, the bellicose elements in south Korea have never ceased "anti-communist" and "anti-DPRK" campaigns, desperately trying to create a war atmosphere.

In addition, the peaceful reunification demands prevention of any armed conflict between the north and the south. Although the DPRK has declared it has no intention to invade the southern part, the south Korean "regime" is increasing armament and opposing the U.S. troop withdrawal on the pretext of the "threat from the north." Thus, the situation is aggravating on the peninsula.

Korea's peaceful reunification can be achieved only when both sides sincerely want it and do everything in their power for that purpose.

-GREAT NATIONAL UNITY-

The principle of great national unity means pooling the nation's wisdom and energy for the purpose of reunifying the country, irrespective of differences in ideologies, ideals and social systems. National reunification cannot be realized by unilateral initiative or individual effort. Only the united effort of the entire Korean people can bring about early reunification of the country.

Despite the multiple differences existing between north and south Korea, the Koreans consider themselves to be a homogeneous nation. This racial identity is the realistic basis for national unity.

From a historical point of view, the entire Korean people oppose the perpetuation of national division. Their unanimous desire for national unity constitutes a reliable guarantee for national reunification, regardless of differences in ideologies, ideals and social systems.

National unity is opposed to interference by outside forces. Foreign imperialists have always tried to create antagonisms within a nation, in order to take advantage of its disunity for their aggressive purposes. Proceeding from this policy practice, the U.S. and Japan today call for "two Koreas." Therefore, foreign forces' meddling in the reunification question should be rejected.

Further, for the sake of national unity, it is necessary to create an atmosphere of mutual respect, trust and understanding, and to forget old records.

The present distrust and misunderstanding between the north and the south is a result of the U.S.-initiated global "anti-communist" policy and slanderous campaigns against socialism and communism. Such dastard campaigns should be ended.

For national unity, no ideology, ideal or social system should be forced by one side upon the other, and people in both parts should be allowed to choose them freely.

In particular, the democratization of south Korea should precede national unity. In south Korea there are still such fascist repressive laws as the "anticommunist law" and the "national security law." So far, countless south Korean patriots and democrats devoted to the cause of reunification have been imprisoned and some of them executed, on charges of violation of these outdated suppressive laws. In such a terror-ridden atmosphere, it is impossible to achieve great national unity.

Facts prove that the basic policy of national reunification put forward by President Kim Il Sung and the three principles based on it alone can realistically and reasonably lead to the independent, peaceful reunification of the country. (To be continued)

Chongryun Congress Slated for Autumn

The Sixth Meeting of the Tenth Central Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) was held in Tokyo on April 25 and 26. Han Duk Su, Chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongryun was present at the meeting. Also present were its Vice-Chairmen and members of the Central Committee and the Auditing Committee.

At the meeting Chairman Han Duk Su delivered a report.

A resolution of the Sixth Meeting of the Tenth Central Committee on convening the 11th Congress of Chongryun this autumn was unanimously adopted at the meeting.

Newsweek:

Senior Seoul Official Asks for Washington's Pressure on Pak

Even some of the south Korean dictator Pak Jung Hi's aides are beginning to express concern over Pak's high-handed repressive policies, internal affairs and tampered her independent development.

The recent determined step of the Ethiopian Government is a very proper step taken for the consolidation of the country's independence, national dignity and the interests of the revolutionary development.

This strikingly demonstrates the strong revolutionary will of the Ethiopian Government and people to firmly defend the revolutionary gains from all manner of interference and aggression of the imperialists and carry their revolutionary cause of independence against imperialism to completion. (KCNA)

had been wiretapped by unidentified CIA agents who infiltrated into the "Blue House," the south Korean "presidential office." Pak Jung Hi was angered by his men's betrayal.

It is rumoured that some high-ranking officials of Pak's "government," including army officers, attempted a coup d'etat and were arrested. "Speaker" Chong Il Gwon is also believed involved in the coup attempt.

This year, the newly inaugurated Carter administration made Pak Jung Hi uneasy as never before, because the new administration had pledged to phase out the U.S. troops from south Korea and give priority to human rights in U.S. foreign policy.

In the beginning of this year, it was reported that a national committee for democracy was secretly inaugurated to wage a joint struggle to overthrow the dictatorship. On the first anniversary of the March 1 manifesto, thousands of Christians met in Seoul and demanded immediate release of 18 dissident leaders involved in the case. Further, more than 1,500 workers held a rally at a Seoul cathedral and issued a declaration for workers' human rights. Following this, some dissident leaders, including Yun Bo Son, former "president," and Ryang Il Dong, chairman of the opposition "Democratic Unification Party," published a charter for democracy and national salvation, demanding Pak's resignation.

These actions were followed by students' struggles in various universities, including Seoul National and Rioha. Issuing declarations for democracy, they expressed their firm determination to fight it out.

Confronting the Pak regime's harsh suppression of the dissident movement, south Korean dissenters started from April a campaign to collect signatures in support of the democratic charter and called for a democratic national coalition.

Today, the Pak Jung Hi "regime" is shaken to its foundation, completely isolated at home and abroad. Even Pak's aides are expressing complaints about his repressive rule. The recent report of the Newsweek also proves that Pak's days are already numbered.

The following is reprinted from the Newsweek, May 2, "South Korea: An Acute Sense of Timing":

Some dissenters in Seoul complain that U.S. Ambassador Richard Sneider isn't pushing Park hard enough to respect human rights. The Rev. Kim Kwan Suk, a leading dissident, charges Sneider with a "lack of commitment to human rights." Sneider claims he is making progress behind the scenes. "I'm not going to be crucified," he says. "I'm pursuing President Carter's policies. But if I tried to justify my record publicly, quiet efforts would no longer be quiet or effective." Some dissidents want Washington to put more public pressure on Park. "The U.S. Government should be more involved," says Soo Ham Cardinal Kim. Other activists endorse Sneider's approach. "It is more effective for him to speak quietly than to push the government publicly," says Dr. Kim Ohgil, the president of Ehwa University.

But even some of Park's aides are beginning to express concern with his policies. One senior official sent a private message last week to U.S. national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski asking for pressure on Park in order to "save Korea." By now, the official told NEWSWEEK, "everyone is afraid of everyone else. We don't dare discuss our true feelings with anyone except our wives." The U.S. is already getting the message. "There's got to be a limit to our patience," said an American diplomat. "I can't say how close we are to the limit, but the latest roundup hasn't helped."

Talk of President KIM IL SUNG with Executive Managing Editor of Japanese Yomiuri Shinbun and His Party

Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea) and all other papers on April 30 in Pyongyang carry the full text of the talk the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung had with the executive managing editor of the Japanese Yomiuri Shinbun and his party when he met them on April 23.

"Follows the full text of the talk:

I received with thanks the kind letter of congratulations and valuable gift you sent me on my birthday. And today you have come to see me like this and kindly said words of congratulations. I am grateful to you for this.

I received from Chongryun Chairman Han Duk Su a letter of introduction asking me to give you a hospitable treatment when you come to our country. I thank you once again for your much contribution to the activities of Chongryun for defending the democratic national rights.

I should have met you earlier. But, I came back to Pyongyang yesterday from my local trip. So our meeting with you is somewhat belated. Of course, I could meet you in a local place. But I decided to meet you in Pyongyang on Saturday because I thought it would take a few hours to answer your questions on various matters and, moreover, you are actively helping us in our work. This is why we are late in meeting you. I hope you will understand this. Today I have spared time for you, and so I would like you to be unreserved with me in everything.

This is my first meeting with you, but I feel as if I were seeing my old friends.

I heard you were much surprised when you learned that I was working out in the local areas on my birthday, too. I usually do not celebrate my birthday. This year, too, I instructed that no celebrations should be organised on my birthday. However, young people would not hear me, but held some functions among them selves. On my 65th birthday Shaknouk came and did not let go of me. So I became a "captive" and was obliged to spend that day in Pyongyang.

Everyone has his birthday. If everyone celebrates his birthday, it will be a big problem, won't it?

Of course, it is good to spend one's birthday merrily with a few friends. We are not against this. But we oppose pompous birthday celebration.

Education of Children

I am highly pleased to hear that you were deeply impressed by the upbringing and education of our children and many other things in our country.

Our Party, the Government of the Republic and our people regard the upbringing and education of children and students as a very important problem.

Our country now has large numbers of children and students who are looked after at the state expense. The number of babies and children growing up in the nurseries and kindergartens is 3,500,000 and that of pupils and students attending schools at all levels from primary school to university, 5,100,000. Altogether, their number is far greater than eight million, accounting for nearly half our population. Our state is in charge of bringing up and educating them all.

Needless to say, it is a big burden to raise and educate half the population under the charge of the state This, however, is a work for the future and so in spite of the difficulties we bear the burden of bringing up and educating the rising generation.

The younger generation represents our future. Without the rising generation there can be neither the future of the country nor the progress of society. Accordingly, it is very important to raise well the rising generation, the future master.

We lived a hard life of humiliation in the past. But we should see that the rising generation live in comfort free from oppression and humiliation. For this, the rising generation should be brought up to be cheerful and vivacious and to have a wealth of knowledge, strong physique and lofty morals.

Now we are energetically carrying on the education of the rising generation. When we started this work first, its prospects were dim. But scores of years of our experience has convinced us that it is not beyond our power.

Economic Prospects

I leave it to you how to evaluate the industry and agriculture of our country. I think you will be able to judge for yourselves if you see more of these fields during your stay in our country.

Our country is yet to develop. It needs some time for our country to catch up with the developed countries. Our past experience convinces us that though there may be difficulties on the road ahead, we will be able to raise our country to the level of the developed countries. Because we have an independent national economy.

We have already built a solid independent national economy. On this basis our country will advance more rapidly in the future. Ours is not a dependent economy subordinated to other countries. Therefore, no country can dictate the development of our economy. How to develop our economy will be decided upon according to our own determination.

You asked me about the prospects of our country's economic construction. I will say a few words about this.

In our country the Six-Year Plan was victoriously fulfilled in August 1975, one year and four months ahead of schedule, in terms of gross industrial output value. But at that time, two targets were not fully reached. One was steel and the other cement.

Last year we accomplished the Six-Year Plan assignments of steel and cement production which had been left unfulfilled. During my recent local inspection tour I heard that the newly built cement factory was operating well and that its production could be completely normalized this year. This year steel production, too, has been completely put on a normal basis.

We defined this year as a year of readjustment. In doing so we aimed at making more preparations for one year for embarking upon a new long-term plan.

There is some strain on transport in our present economic construction. Many new industrial establishments were built during the Six-Year Plan and transport fails to keep pace with this. We, therefore, decided that this year transport should be improved, and are working hard to ease its strain.

In order to remove the strain on transport, we are making endeavours to further accelerate the electrification of railways, swiftly develop sea transport and mass produce heavy-duty trucks to develop the motor transport in a big way.

Next year our country will embark upon a new plan for the development of the national economy. This will be the second Seven-Year Plan. Our past experience has shown that in our country six or seven years are more appropriate than four or five for the term of a plan for the development of the national economy. Our second Seven-Year Plan now under preparation will cover the period from 1978 to 1984.

We are now drawing up the second Seven-Year Plan. Though I cannot tell you specific indices of this new long-term plan since it is still in the making, we intend to double the output of major manufactured goods during this plan.

What is most important in the nation's economic development is steel, electric power, cement and coal. These are the main factors in industry. A few years ago, we set the perspective goal to capture the height of 12 million tons of steel and we intend to bring the annual steel output up to the seven-eight million ton mark during the expected Seven-Year Plan. And we plan to produce 70-80 million tons of coal, 60,000 million kwh of electric power, and 12-13 million tons of cement. Thus the new Seven-Year Plan envisages a two-fold growth in the output of major manufactured goods in general. We are confident that we will surely attain the goals of the new long-term plan by the year 1984.

What is important in the fulfilment of the second Seven-Year Plan is to tap and use home resources on the principle of self-reliance, without introducing foreign capital. We will, of course, introduce some advanced technology of other countries. But principally we will solve our problems on our own by relying on the solid independent national economy already built in our country, without inducing foreign capital.

When we develop heavy industry we do not do so for its own sake. We develop heavy industry which serves the production and supply of things necessary for light industry, agriculture, construction and other fields of the national economy.

Evaluation of Carter

Next, you asked me how I evaluate the Carter Administration and, I think, this is a very interesting question.

We have never commented on the Carter Administration yet. But now I would like to talk to you about it.

In his campaign pledges, Carter said he would withdraw U.S. troops from south Korea and would denounce a regime that tramples on human rights. And recently he announced the lift of the ban on travel to some countries including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. All this can be regarded as a favourable attitude towards our country. But the problem is, what he said in his campaign pledges differs from what he has done since.

Of course, we have to wait and see how Carter fulfils his pledges because it is only a few months since he took office. But the remarks of certain people now about the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea contradict Carter's commitments in many points.

There is a talk in the United States now that the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea will be gradually effected over a period of four to five years. The U.S. president's tenure of office is four years. So, I think this talking about the gradual withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea over a period of four to five years suggests that there would be no troops pullout from south Korea while he is in office.

There is also a story that even in case they withdraw the U.S. troops from south Korea, this will not be a complete pullout, but the air force will stay on. This is a far cry from Carter's pledges to completely withdraw the U.S. troops from south Korea. The air force is also a military force.

They say that the U.S. troops withdrawal from south Korea will be made with the consent of the south Korean authorities and the Japanese Government and with their full understanding. The south Korean authorities are opposed to the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and the Japanese Government is also against it on the whole. So it is hard to guess what the United States means when it says it will withdraw its troops from south Korea with the consent of the south Korean authorities and the Japanese Government—whether it means that it will do so by talking round those opposed to it or that it cannot pull out its troops because of these opponents.

Of course, Carter himself has made no statements about this in particular. In most cases his subordinates, among them Vice-President Mondale, made such statements. These people have made many remarks in one way or another. If they expressed the position of the Carter Administration, they go back on his campaign pledges and, if they do not represent Carter, will but the opinion of his subordinates, I think further study is needed as to his administration. It is for this reason that we have not yet made any critical remark about the Carter Administration. As regards its attitude, we will have to wait and see. Because it is only three months since Carter assumed office and there is yet time for him to honour his campaign pledges.

But, in one thing, the Carter Administration is obviously going against the campaign pledges.

The Carter Administration threatens other countries by declaring that it will not support a regime suppressing human rights. But it continues to give military aid to the south Korean authorities and stages joint military exercises with them.

The U.S. forces and the south Korean puppet army persist in joint military exercises "as spring "B-52" strategic bombers of the U.S. air force flew often to south Korea from Okinawa and made bombing exercises. More recently, a large-scale military exercise was carried out. I think you know better about this.

The U.S. forces have bombing exercise grounds everywhere. Why do they come to south Korea for bombing practices? It is rather to threaten and blackmail the south Korean people than to frighten us, and to encourage the south Korean reactionary rulers to intensify suppression of the people. That is why we think it runs counter to Carter's campaign pledges that he would not support a regime suppressing human rights.

Though we think well of Carter's campaign pledges, we are watching how he honours them. It is as yet premature to give a definite opinion about the Carter Administration.

Korea's Reunification

Then, I would like to speak about the question of Korea's reunification.

You asked me whether the prospects of Korean reunification, including the question of dialogue, are bright or gloomy. Korean reunification cannot be regarded as hopeless. For us nothing is hopeless. We can not live if we have no hope. All our people live with the hope for the reunification of the country.

At the present juncture, the solution of the Korean issue depends on the Koreans themselves. If the question of Korean reunification is to be resolved, it is necessary, first of all, for the south Korean people to awaken and rise up to bring about the democratization of south Korean society.

It cannot be said that the struggle of the south Korean people for democracy has been totally squashed. The south Korean people keen on struggle with a hope to free themselves from the fascist suppression of the enemy and his tyranny. On March 1 last year south Korean democrats made public a "declaration for democracy and national salvation" against the fascist dictatorial "regime." This year students issued a "declaration." Even religionists in south Korea are holding "prayer meetings" and struggling against the fascist "regime." This shows that the demand for democracy is growing among the south Korean people.

The south Korean rulers now resort to most unscrupulous fascist rule. But such a fascist suppression cannot work. The lessons of history show that a tyrant cannot stay long. No nation's history knows as yet an instance of a tyrant lasting long and there is no such instance in our time either. In the past the dynasties of feudal society and the rulers of capitalist society tried to improve their position by repression. But all of them met their doom in face of the resistance of the popular masses. Therefore, we think that if the south Korean people awaken and the entire people in north and south Korea fight in unity, Korea can be surely reunified independently.

Korea must be reunified on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, as we already clarified in the July 4 north-south joint statement. No matter how the situation may change in the future, the question of Korean reunification cannot be solved apart from these basic principles.

As for the dialogue between the north and the south, we consider that we cannot have it with the south Korean authorities as long as they pursue a policy of fascist suppression as now. But if they give up the "anti-communist" slogan, renounce the policy of suppression against the south Korean democrats, discard the "two Koreas" plot and sincerely want reunification, cease to increase military forces, give up the policy of detaining the foreign troops in south Korea and stop increasing tension in south Korea, we can have a dialogue with the Democratic Republican Party, too. We have already talked about this many times and made it plain again at a joint meeting of political parties and public organisations some time ago.

We are confident that whatever course the situation may take, Korea will certainly be reunified, if the Koreans themselves strive to solve the question of Korean reunification and the people of the world raise their voices against the unjust splitting policy toward Korea and in support of her reunification.

Relations with China, Japan

Next, you asked me how the recent change of leaders in the United States, China and Japan would influence the relations between Korea and these countries. Let me speak about this.

As I have already mentioned the Carter Administration of the United States, I will say no more about it.

In China, Comrade Hua Kuofeng became Chairman of the Party. As China is our neighbour and a fraternal country and the peoples of Korea and China are old comrades-in-arms, the relations between Korea and China are very good.

As for the Fukuda Cabinet of Japan, we do not know it well yet. So, it will take some more time to form our judgement about it.

The question of relations between Korea and Japan largely depends on whether the present Government of Japan takes an independent road or follows the policy of the United States. In our opinion, therefore, there will be no great progress in the relations between Korea and Japan before the relations between our country and the United States are improved.

Previously the Japanese Government was at the beck and call of the United States, toeing its line. If the new Government of Japan acts independently, there may be a new change in its policy towards our country. But it is hard to expect any special improvement in its relations with our country because the new Government of Japan is also closely related with the reactionary ruling quarters of south Korea. We consider that the Japanese Government will hardly go further in its relations with our country than now before our country is reunified.

The Japanese Government will not make a big change in its relations with our country. But we think, since the United States declared that it would lift the ban on travel to Korea, the Japanese Government, too, may act accordingly and try to have more personal and cultural exchange with our country. It is not bad to have free personal visits between the two countries. We expect nothing more from the present Japanese Government.

Frequent personal visits between the two countries will help the Japanese people understand our people better and vice versa. We believe that deepening the mutual understanding between the two peoples like this will be very gratifying.

We will not unreasonably demand that the Japanese Government have ties only with us and sever ties with the south Korean authorities. We need not make this sort of demand, and even if we do so our demand will not be met. If such a demand is put forward when our country is not yet reunified, it will put the Japanese Government in an awkward situation. We, therefore, do not pin great hopes on the Japanese Government in connection with the question of Korea-Japan relations.

What we expect from the Japanese Government is that it refrains from acts detrimental to the reunification of our country. We regard it as one step forward if only the Japanese Government pursues a policy which does not obstruct the reunification of Korea.

Such a policy means that the Japanese Government does not ask for the permanent presence of the U.S. forces in south Korea like the reactionaries of south Korea, discontinues acts of supporting the suppression of human rights in south Korea and refrains from helping the reactionary rulers of south Korea to feather their own nests. This will be greatly conducive to Korean reunification.

This alone will be enough to make us believe the Japanese Government is friendly towards us. We advance this much moderate request to the Japanese Government.

Next, you asked me whether a liaison office can be set up for the development of trade between Korea and Japan and whether a fishery agreement can be concluded between the two countries. I think this is feasible.

But, it is a question whether the Japanese Government will agree or not. The question is whether the Japanese Government can ignore the pressure by the United States or not, because the Japanese Government is afraid of it. We will not oppose the idea if the Japanese Government agrees. What matters is the attitude of the Japanese Government.

As for the question of concluding a fishery agreement between Korea and Japan, we have made it clear on several occasions that we will not oppose it, if the Japanese Government is not against it. We stated so to a delegation of the Japan Socialist Party and also of a Japan-Korea amity and friendship fishery delegation when they visited our country. This question, too, depends upon the attitude of the Japanese Government.

Lastly, you asked me about our opinion of the Yomiuri Shimbun's desire for wide cultural exchange with our country. We consider it a very good thing.

It fully accords with the interests of the peoples of Korea and Japan to expand the cultural exchange between them.

It is very well done that the Yomiuri Shimbun has taken this kind of initiative to acquaint the Japanese people better with Korea and help them know more about her. For this I am grateful to you.

To develop the cultural exchange between Korea and Japan is beneficial for the Japanese people, the Korean people, and for Korea's reunification as well. We, therefore, fully support your initiative and will actively respond to it.

I hope that you will discuss matters in detail about this question with our functionaries concerned.

I am very glad to have talked with you today about various questions. (KCNA)

(Subtitles are ours...Ed.)

DPRK Land Law Adopted

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, promulgated the law of the Supreme People's Assembly, "On the Adoption of the Land Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea," adopted at the April 29 sitting of the Seventh Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly held in Pyongyang.

"The Land Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea" promulgated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung consists of six chapters and 80 articles.

Chapter 1 (articles 1-8) defines that "Land of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Is a Precious Gain of Revolution."

According to the articles of this chapter, the land in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a precious gain of revolution which the entire peasants achieved in the stage of the democratic revolution under the great law on agrarian reform enforced on the principle "land to its tiller" under the wise leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea and the people's power.

In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea the agrarian reform and the policy of agricultural cooperativization were carried out in a thoroughgoing manner, with the result that, in the countryside, feudal landownership and all the practices of exploitation were liquidated completely and socialist landownership was established in an all-round way.

The state struggles to defend the land—the gain of revolution—from the encroachment of all the enemies inside and outside.

The state takes necessary steps to fix by law the successes in the agrarian reform and the socialist landownership and consolidate and develop them, conserve and develop land and place it under the common use of the state and society, so as to further solidify the material and technical foundations of socialism and powerfully promote the socialist construction of the country.

The state organizes and carries out under a perspective plan on the general program of land construction such projects for remaking land and conquering nature as land conservation and land reclamation.

The state strengthens scientific researches to develop land and industrialize and modernize agriculture and, particularly, to ameliorate land and increase its utility and trains technicians necessary for the project under a perspective plan.

The state classifies land for its management into agricultural land, land of residential quarters, woodlands, industrial land, water basin land and special land to suit its utilization.

Chapter 2 (articles 9-13) defines "Land Ownership."

According to articles of this chapter, in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea land belongs to the state and the cooperative organisations.

All the land of the country is the common property of the people, which no one can sell, buy or make his.

The state strengthens and develops socialist cooperative economic system and may gradually transform the land of the cooperative organisations into all-people property in proportion to the development of the rural economic system and in conformity with the voluntary will of the entire membership of those organisations.

The land of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea can be controlled only by the state and it may be extensively used by the cooperative farms, organs and enterprises, organisations and citizens for the interest and welfare of the people.

Chapter 3 (articles 14-18) defines "General Program of Land Construction."

According to the articles of this chapter, the general program of land construction is an integrated and comprehensive long-term program for land construction, i.e., for developing and using, readjusting and beautifying land in a rational way for the purpose of the development of the national economy and the promotion of the well-being of the people and for managing the nation's economic life as a whole in a perspective and planned way.

The principles to be adhered to in drawing up the general program of land construction are as follows:

In land construction the development of resources the arable land should not be encroached upon but be cared for and protected by all means.

The scales of cities should not be too big, but small ones be built in large numbers.

The climatic and soil characteristics of different areas of the country should be taken into account.

The program should be worked out on a scientific basis in conformity with the orientation of the development of the nation's economy and the prospect of the development of regional economy.

The general program of land construction contains in its content steps for properly constructing the revolutionary battle sites and the fortresses of revolution and protecting them, the orientation and steps for readjusting, improving and conserving the land and obtaining new land by reclaiming and using tideland, the orientation of creating forests and steps for conserving and using them, the orientation of building and readjusting rivers, lakes and reservoirs, distribution of the setups for preventing flood damages and steps for the comprehensive utilization of water, the rational distribution of the networks of transport, power supply and communications and their facilities, the location and size of the cities to be marked off for the development of underground resources and distribution of industrial and agricultural enterprises and their size, location and size of towns and villages, recreation and recuperation centres and the steps for conserving scenic spots, natural monuments, and cultural relics and remains, the orientation of the comprehensive development and utilization of coastal and territorial waters and steps for protecting marine resources and steps for preventing air and water pollution and so forth.

Chapter 4 (articles 19-42) defines "Land Conservation."

This chapter stipulates that the state vigorously carries out river readjustment, the creation of forests and other land conservancy projects to prevent the loss of land, increase the material wealth of the country and promote the well-being of the people.

The land administration organs and the agricultural guidance organs should organize and undertake river readjustment in a planned and perspective way and the readjustment and management of big and important rivers are undertaken by the land administration organs and the readjustment of medium and small rivers by the relevant organs, enterprises and cooperative farms.

The land administration organs, the agricultural guidance organs and other relevant organs and enterprises should protect the land from natural calamities and beautify the scenery of the country by creating such reserves as shelter belts, anti-erosion forests, hygienic and scenic forests and water conservancy forests and building anti-erosion and anti-land-sliding structures in conformity with the local conditions.

Chapter 5 (articles 43-62) of the land law defines "Land Construction."

According to the articles of this chapter, the state organizes and undertakes land construction under a perspective plan to hasten the industrialisation and modernisation of agriculture, increase agricultural production and change the looks of the territory.

The state completes the non-paddy irrigation system, while consolidating and developing the paddy field irrigation system.

The state also directs great efforts to land rezoning, land amelioration, terracing of fields and tideland reclamations.

The state builds modern and cultured towns and villages to provide the people with better living conditions.

The state builds and administers roads on the principle of successfully ensuring political, economic and cultural links between all regions and serving for the promotion of the well-being of the people.

The state promotes the construction of the coastal and territorial waters—developing and readjusting the coastal and territorial waters, building and expanding harbours and opening water routes—to make the country rich and strong and develop water transport.

Chapter 6 (articles 63-80) defines "Land Administration."

The articles of this chapter stipulate that the cooperative farms and all the organs, enterprises and organisations using and should strictly abide by the system and order in land utilization.

The articles of this chapter point out that the entire people, agricultural working people and the officials of the state organs should participate with the attitude of a master in land conservation, land construction and land administration.

(KCNA)

News in Brief

Apr. 26

* A delegation of Albanian agronomists headed by Nikolaq Jarko, director of the cooperative department of the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, arrived in Pyongyang.

* A delegation of the Vietnamese Committee in Support of the Struggle of the Korean People for the Reunification of the Country headed by Tran Tu Binh, Alternate Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, President of the Vietnam-Korea Friendship Association, General Director of the Vietnam Broadcasting and vice-Chairman of the Vietnamese Committee in Support of the Struggle of the Korean People for the Reunification of the Country, flew into Pyongyang.

Apr. 27

* A government delegation of the DPRK headed by Han Hong Sop left Pyongyang by plane to attend the 30th Session of the World Health Organisation scheduled in Geneva.

* A friendship visiting group of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kim Gi Nam left Pyongyang by train to visit the People's Republic of China at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

* The Central People's Committee of the DPRK appointed by a decree Tak Gwan Chol as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the DPRK to the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Apr. 28

* A delegation of the Air Force Staff College of Pakistan headed by Air Commodore Ayaz Ahmed Khan Director of the College, arrived in Pyongyang by plane. (KCNA)

Hard Winter Days

Presented here are excerpts from "Special Correspondent's Report from Seoul" by Ikari Akira, journalist of the Japanese newspaper "Asahi Shimbun."

Seoul in Winter

Seoul swarms with people: demobbed youths who have no mind to return to their native places, young girls who, to help their families, have come up from rural districts in quest of a lucrative job in gay quarters, and uprooted peasants who have come up, taking all their families in hope of earning their livelihood in Seoul. Its population has already passed a six million mark, showing the density nearly twice as great as Tokyo.

New residential buildings have risen apace on the flat south of the Han-gang River. Striking is the development of the region near the third Hangang Bridge, which has been bought up by big holders.

A remaining strip of rice paddy in this new residential district was filled with water and made a makeshift skating rink. A lofty pole was planted in the centre and numerous buntings were attached to the lines which were stretched down in all directions from the pole-top. It was apparently designed to attract people who would pay admission, though it is not high. Little skaters are dexterously circling around the pole under the flying buntings. As a previous Asahi Shimbun correspondent to Seoul I recalled this winterscape while asking about the weather of Seoul when I received a telephone call from the Seoul branch at the head office.

The Seoul branch informed me of the acute fuel crisis caused there by war in the Middle East. Apart from its impact on the petrochemical industry in Ulsan, south Korea will suffer from a fuel shortage this winter. Staying in Seoul from August to September to get information of the Kim Dae Jung incident, I saw a briquette factory in the suburbs operating at full capacity, shovelling down a big mountain of coal.

Briquette is the only available heat source for the families of common people in south Korea. With it they prepare meals, boil water, and keep rooms warm by way of heating floor called *ondol*. If briquette is made exclusive possession under the influence of oil crisis, it may cause social unrest.

According to the reports from Seoul, the petroleum crisis has already begun to tell on the bus and taxi service which plays the role of "legs" for the citizens. Informed of this, I pictured south Korea today in my mind.

Buses were the first to float in the mind. Most of them are run by private owners in south Korea. There is even a case in which several persons run one bus with their raised fund. The competition is very hot as the bus companies are all operated separately. Buses of different owners rush back and forth along the same course in Seoul.

Each tries to reach the bus stop earlier than others and carry more passengers. It is a common occurrence that a bus stops ahead of others at bus stops. This causes frequent accidents.

Even packed buses take in more passengers for money. A big accident happened when I was working in Seoul. One morning in the rush hour a packed bus rolled off the roadside and tumbled down to the riverside, causing 26 dead and 78 wounded. It was because the bus ran zigzag, passing other cars ahead to take in more passengers. It occurred 20 days after the emergency martial law was proclaimed for the lifetime office of "president" Pak Jung Hi. The press gave a brief account of the accident, presumably because of censorship.

In case of such a traffic accident a bus company gives insufficient allowances to the bereft families and wounded, as it is run on small funds. And there is no help for this on the part of the victims. This is like "One in a sleeveless robe cannot dance and wave his sleeves."

Financial trouble acts on labor administration as well. Most of the bus conductresses are young girls from rural districts. They work from 4 a.m. to 12 p.m., that is, from the end of the curfew to its beginning. They should work 20 days a month. I was told a tragic story about a conductress who, utterly exhausted, fell off from the opened door of the running bus and got run-over.

Kickback, Human Rights

Winter is hard for the bus conductresses to pass. Most of buses in south Korea collect fares in cash. Conductresses do not wear gloves lest they should make a mistake in calculation. Everytime the bus door opens at the top a biting draft gets in. The icy door handle is prickling on the touch. The conductress gives starting signal by opening the window and drumming the side of the bus which is devoid of the buzzer. When going to and from my work place by bus in winter I often saw conductresses with hands which turned purple with cold.

Labour is intense, while pay is low. The management might say that "they are provided with beds and boards and issued uniforms." But otherwise it would be unable to maintain the system of overtime work which lasts up to the curfew hour. In this sense, those lodging and boarding facilities are provided not for the young girls but for the management itself. And uniforms are mostly navy-blue overwears. I don't think they will please the girls who have reached a marriageable age and must be particular about their dresses.

Such being the situation, bus conductresses are drawn into kickback in league with drivers. Two conductresses standing by the front and back doors collect fares from passengers. After the day's work they retain a part of the collection and divide it with the driver. In this way they manage to eke out a bare existence. But a kickback is something more than the girls of tender years can do. In the spring of 1970 a bus conductress of the Christian faith pleaded her distress to the Christians:

"I earn 6,000 won a month, on which I cannot live. So I used to pocket 300 won a day with a guilty conscience. I found no courage to go to church."

Her bitter appeal had a great impact on church circles. This occasioned a symposium in late May the same year, which was entitled, "What Is Meant by *Pintang*?" *Pintang* means a kickback. The symposium exposed cases of subhuman treatment to bus conductresses. Female superintendents employed by the management frisked the conductresses for rake-off. Just before the opening of the symposium, some conductresses who had been frisked in face of passengers went into a strike, defying the layoff.

Female superintendents have a portion of rake-off shared. In recompense for it, they would frisk the conductresses perfunctorily. According to an investigation conducted after the symposium by the press organs in south Korea on their own initiative, there was a female superintendent who had taken as much as 126,000 won a month out of kickbacks.

Female superintendents are not supposed to keep all of their illicit earnings to themselves. They must have paid a good part of them to the company staff members who have the right to pick superintendents.

The practice of "payment to higherups" is a problem for democracy-seeking south Korea, which must be overcome soon. Otherwise, it would get the strong rich, fomenting corruption among the communal members including office holders. Now the word is going around widely in south Korea that "a traffic policeman who can't get his house built is a fool". On a fine day traffic policemen would set out to hunt out traffic violators, their white motorcycles producing a tremendous sound. They are well aware of the places where cars are liable to violate regulations in stopping or parking. They would lie in ambush and fall on a traffic violator in no time. The pinched driver would think, "It's all my bad luck." And he would readily grease the policemen's hand and go free. Otherwise he would lose his licence, the bread-winner. A quick-witted driver usually keeps a 500-won paper money in the fold of his license card. When pinched, he would offer the card to the policemen. The latter would take the money and return the card to the driver then and there.

Widening Gap between Rich and Poor

In the wake of the "presidential" election in the spring of 1971 in which Kim Dae Jung had challenged "president" Pak, students and some intellectuals rose in a struggle to exterminate "injustice and corruption," which was intended to oppose the Pak "regime". In response to their vigorous move the influential daily *Tonga Ilbo* carried a snapshot of a traffic policeman taking money from a driver. The picture was taken with a telephoto-lens by its cameraman who had waited for a chance with patience near a place where drivers are liable to fall into a trap.

It is not limited to traffic policemen who take bribes from commoners. Those vested with the issue of licences openly take the bribe called "express charges" at their reception counter. The same is true with the officials issuing exit visas for those going abroad or reentry visas for foreigners wanting to stay long in south Korea where the visa control is strict. Personnel of Japanese trading companies who frequent south Korea on business mission misuse this evil practice in filling their importunate demands by offering sizable bribes. While in south Korea I heard some of our Japanese grumble: "Things are getting tougher with us because the branch chiefs, returning to Japan for a meeting at the head office, offered as much as 10,000 *won* as a bribe for an early receipt of the reentry visas from the south Korean authorities."

A part of the bribes collected at the reception counter go to the officials in charge, and the remainder to their superiors. The higher the rank, the smaller its holders. So those in the highest rank enjoy the biggest share. This is a sort of system, and the student demonstrators who rose against "injustice and corruption" took issue with this very system under which "the rich get ever richer and the poor get ever poorer."

Poem "Five Bandits" Comes To Public Knowledge

Demonstrations were regarded before as a mere explosive move against the social contradictions. But when the students and some intellectuals rose in a demonstration, occasioned by the Kim Dae Jung incident, it became obvious that a firm purpose and desire for the democratized south Korea had been lying at the base of all the claims and demands in the past. The demand for democratization, which has come to the fore this time, may be temporarily hushed up by the tactics of the Pak "regime". But the voice against the "government" will rise higher and higher so long as it remains undemocratic.

Around the time when the kickbacks of bus conductresses caused a scandal, I was invited to a farewell party for the Seoul branch chief of a Japanese firm. It was held at the hotel in the heart of the city. A big globe-shaped decoration cake was placed in the middle of the hall. The mark of the company glittered on the top. The guests were chosen so as to show how deeply the company had stretched its hand to south Korea.

Some thirty kisaeng-girls were present there as waitresses. But as it was a cocktail party they had no much work to do. They had only to serve some big dishes. The party ended soon. Afterwards I learned that the company had paid 5,000 *won* to each kisaeng-girl as a tip. A company member said: "They were taken from three first-class kisaeng-girls houses in the city. They were paid a tip as much as they receive a day." Hearing this, I felt a strange shock. Girl conductresses earn 6,000 *won* a month for 360 working hours, while kisaeng-girls receive 5,000 *won* for one or two hours service in a banquet.... This is not simply because "they live in a different world." There must be something more than this contradiction.

At that time a journalist tipped me off that the May 1970 issue of the magazine *Sasanggye* published some time ago carried an acrimonious poem by young poet Kim Ji Ha. I went to a bookstore. The poem was entitled *Five Bandits*. It begins: "Once there lived five bandits in the centre of the capital of Seoul...." The five bandits, they were represented by peculiar Chinese character expressing animals, suggest a plutocrat, an assemblyman, a top government official, a general and a minister or vice-minister.

The words "five bandits" originated from the five chief ministers of the Li dynasty who stepped up the annexation of Korea by Japan, bringing the country to ruin. The poet seems to have stigmatized the afore-mentioned privileged classes as the new "traitors" who are ruining the liberated country again.

The poem written in original rhyme was difficult for me to understand, for I am a foreigner and have no poet in me. So I turned to a specialist for its authentic translation.

The poem told about the luxurious life the privileged class of south Korea are leading with the aid of Japan and others. I felt an urge to introduce the poem to the Japanese. But the poet must not be made to suffer the press gag of the Pak "regime". When *Sasanggye* carried the poem, the KCIA section concerned seemed to have taken issue with it. It must have kept silence, for the withdrawal of the copies at issue or the detention of the poet would have caused a big commotion. Or it must have rather been helpless since the poem stated facts as they were.

The journalists and editors of the daily "Choson Ilbo" resolutely fight against the press gag by the Pak Jung Hi junta.

World of Privileged Classes Exposed

I wrote an article about the contradictions in south Korea exposed in the poem *Five Bandits*, and sent it to the head office. I also touched on a story about those bus conductresses and kisaeng-girls. The article appeared in the foreign news column of the May 19, 1970 issue of *Asahi Shimbun*. There was also a photo cut from *Sasanggye*.

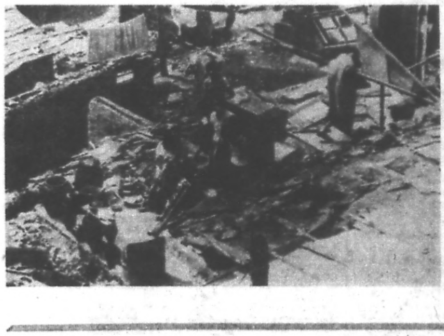
On the very day I was writing that article, Kim Ung Ju, the assemblyman from the opposition New Democratic Party, addressed an interpellation. So my article dealt with it. Pointing out that the Tongbinggodong district bristling with luxury houses for the privileged was being called a bandits' village by citizens, Assemblyman Kim said: "It is because the privileged there have bought illegally the one-time land for military use at a low price and because most of them are free from property levy tax. It is hardly imaginable that the houses of 200-300 million *won* worth, twice or thrice as much expensive as the luxury houses in Hollywood, have been able to rise up in this poor country. Investigation recently undertaken on the instruction of "president" Pak reveals that 330 government party officials have built the houses of more than 30 million *won* worth."

This issue of *Asahi Shimbun* was distributed among south Korean readers as usual. Towards the evening, however, an order came to withdraw all copies of that issue. A dealer in foreign newspapers turned up and asked me to return a copy at issue. I refused.

From that time the magazine *Sasanggye* disappeared from bookstores.

I learned later that my article had been recognized by the south Korean authorities as based on the facts and *Asahi Shimbun* distributed without any cut after the censorship. But the case was different for pro-Seoul Koreans staying in Japan at that time. The newspaper carrying my article came out on the day following the celebration of the south Korean national day at the World Fair. It was attended by top government officials of south Korea who came to Japan. They boasted of the rapid economic development in south Korea. But the *Five Bandits* carried in *Asahi Shimbun* the next day told the reverse. The authority-serving south Koreans in Tokyo demanded the withdrawal of all the copies at issue, and this demand was met. Around that time, however, the south Korean press went into action. *Tonga Ilbo* and *Choson Ilbo* gave photo-illustrated accounts of the luxury houses which were open to public censure. In their wake, the June first issue of *Minju Chonson* (Democratic Front), the organ of the New Democratic Party, carried the whole text of the poem *Five Bandits* which had been hard to come to hand. In retaliation for this, the authorities raided the head office of the New Democratic Party on the next sunrise and seized 100,750 copies of *Minju Chonson* and the stereotypes to prevent its reprint. They also arrested Kim Ji Ha, the author of *Five Bandits*, and Pu Wan Hyok, the representative of the magazine *Sasanggye* as suspected violators of the anti-communist law. With the "presidential" election less than a year ahead, the "government" and its party must have been crazy over preparing it.

In connection with the *Minju Chonson* incident, their spokesmen insisted: "It violated basic democratic order and press ethics by carrying the poem of proletarian colour which defies public order and the "regime" as a whole, and the interpellation of an Assemblyman (Kim Ung Ju) who had abused his privilege of exempt from responsibility" and "The newspaper of the opposition party was full of traitorous evil slanders exceeding the bounds of a political dispute. The New Democratic Party which tried to snatch power by way of benefiting enemies must be brought to a stern judgement by the people and law.



People in south Korea who have lost even their board huts are left in the open air.

"KCIA's" Campaign of Fear in US

—US Magazine "PARADE"—

The US Sunday magazine "PARADE" on April 3 disclosed the activities of the "KCIA" that violated the human rights of Koreans in the US. Following are the excerpts from the "PARADE."

Sometimes, says Chung, the telephone rings in the middle of the night, and when you pick it up there's no one there—nothing but silence. And sometimes there's a high, whirring sound, "like in a horror movie."

Chung Kee Yong says he has been getting these calls for four years, ever since he started the Han Min Shinbo, a tiny Korean-language newspaper he publishes in the Washington, D.C., suburb of Arlington, Va.

The calls can come at any time, at home or at his office. Once Chung and a staff member were working late to get out the newspaper. At about 3 a.m. they decided to move to a room in another building. As soon as they entered the room, the phone rang.

Chung picked it up. "Nothing," he says. "Just silence." As soon as he hung up, the phone rang again. The same thing happened. And then a third time.

"They're very clever," says Chung. "There's nothing you can really prove. They just want you to know they're watching."

Sometimes the threats are more direct, like the time a high-ranking agent of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA) for the United States approached Chung at a party.

Chung remembers the incident in some detail. He was sitting alone when the agent walked up and told him to stop using his newspaper to criticize the south Korean government. "You'd better watch out," the agent said.

After years of living with such threats—first as a student protesting against the military dictatorship of his native Korea and, more recently, as the editor and publisher of the Han Min Shinbo—Chung doesn't scare easily.

"What did you say?" demanded Chung in a loud voice, so the other partygoers could hear. "I didn't hear you. Tell me again." The agent turned and walked away.

There are an estimated 250,000 Koreans living in the United States today, and most of them, like Chung, are aware that the KCIA is sometimes willing to make good on its threats. In 1967, the KCIA kidnapped 17 Korean students from Germany. In 1973 they kidnapped a prominent Korean politician, Kim Dae Jung, from Japan, where he was on a speaking tour. Kim Dae Jung, who was once a candidate for president of south Korea—in 1971 he finished second to Park Chung Hee—and leader of the opposition party there, is now in prison.

Last year, while Chung was out of town, the telephone rang again and his wife answered. This time there was someone on the other end of the line.

"Tell your husband he is making a big mistake," said a man's voice. "If he doesn't stop writing bad things about the government, you will be a widow."

"It doesn't bother me any more," says Chung. "I'm used to it. But my wife is very frightened." During the past year, he says, his wife Moon-ja has developed a stomach ulcer from worrying.

Chung is not the only Korean journalist living in the United States who says he has been threatened by the KCIA.

In December, the editor of a Korean-language newspaper in Philadelphia, the Korean Guardian, reported that he had received threatening calls from men he believes are KCIA agents.

For editor Park Mahn-suh the threats are something new. Until recently, he had been a supporter of the south Korean regime. However, this past fall, shortly after the Korean bribery scandal broke into the headlines in U.S. newspapers, he began to criticize the Korean government for its role in attempting to buy off U.S. Congressmen.

According to Park, one of the callers told him, "If you don't change your articles, we're going to smash your head." Another warned Park that his newspaper offices would be destroyed if he didn't stop his criticism.

In San Francisco, another Korean editor, Song Sun Keum, says his life has been threatened by KCIA agents. Song's newspaper, the Korean journal, is a longtime opponent of the policies of south Korean dictator Park Chung Hee.

In Los Angeles, the editor of New Korea, Kim Woon Ha, has reported similar threats. He says KCIA agents have warned him of "retaliation" if he continues to criticize the Korean government and have also offered him bribes to stop publishing.

In Korea, Kim was an editor of one of the country's largest newspapers and president of the Korean Journalists Association. He left Korea in 1972, shortly after "president" Park Chung Hee declared martial law and made it illegal to criticize the government.

In Los Angeles Kim was surprised to discover that "Korean-American journalism in the United States suffered conditions similar to those in Korea." Nor, says Kim, are journalists the only Koreans in this country who are intimidated by the KCIA. Its agents, he says, also attempt to control the activities of Korean residents' associations. The aim is to suppress all criticism of the Park "regime".

The KCIA, says Kim, is "creating a prison-type atmosphere for many Koreans living in the United States, just as they have done in Korea."

Last spring, in testimony before a Congressional committee headed by Rep. Donald Fraser (D., Minn.), Kim described the situation in Los Angeles. "Because of abusive KCIA activities," said Kim, "the Korean-American residents of this area call Los Angeles the second Seoul, and they call the Korean consul general a generalissimo, and they call the KCIA Los Angeles chief an emergency decree commander. Los Angeles is not U.S. territory to Korean-Americans; it has become, rather, a territory of south Korea."

After hearing the testimony of Kim and others, Fraser asked the FBI to look into the problem. Ten months later, Fraser says, he has not received a report from the FBI.

Inquiries at FBI headquarters in Washington reveal that the FBI, indeed, has very little to report. Evidently they looked into some of the leads handed them by Fraser's committee and then dropped the matter for lack of evidence. A spokesman for the FBI says it is not conducting any investigation of allegations of threats and harassment by KCIA agents "at this time."

"There's nothing we can do unless we have evidence that a federal law has been broken," says the spokesman. He says the FBI has "no special interest" in foreign agents operating in this country, "unless they break the law."

Fraser says that in his opinion there is ample evidence that the KCIA has violated the rights of Koreans living in this country who have been critical of the south Korean "government." "The situation is outrageous and deserves a thorough investigation," he says.

Surprisingly, a statement by the south Korean ambassador himself—Hahm Pyong-choon—seems to support that position. In October, in response to questions by a UPI reporter, Hahm acknowledged that sometimes the KCIA got out of line.

"There have been undersirable characters in the KCIA who have been assigned and working here," said Hahm. "There is no question about it."

Ambassador Hahm even admitted that some agents "used goon psychology and tactics." However, he said those were being sent home.

The Korean embassy now denies that Hahm ever said this. It was all a "misunderstanding," says the embassy's press officer. The ambassador was only referring to "reports of unconfirmed allegations".

Meanwhile, says Chung, he keeps getting those telephone calls.

Reunification Forum (15)

Remove Distrust between North & South

(Cutinued from the previous issue)

Distrust is most unfortunate to man and society, because it sows seeds of discord and hatred which may develop into a struggle for no reason. The division of Korea and distrust between the north and the south are most unfortunate to the Korean nation at present. Distrust is defined by dictionaries as the lack of faith and lying. Faith means keeping promise and not deceiving the people.

Dialogue for Harmony

Generally speaking, dialogue is the way for people to communicate their thought to others and at the same time, it means listening to others. However, there is a principle to be maintained in any dialogue. Each dialogue has an object. There can be no dialogue just for talking.

The Pak Jung Hi junta emphasizes "national harmony," while turning a deaf ear to the south Korean people who are critical of its anti-people policy. No one is supposed to be punished for his speech in the "national assembly" even under the "revitalized law." Nevertheless, Ms. Kim Ok Son was ousted from the "national assembly" because of her speech criticizing the erroneous policy of the south Korean "regime." The duty of lawyer is to make statements on behalf of a defendant in his defense. However, many lawyers including Kang Shin Ok who is now on trial, are deprived of the right to do so because they defended political prisoners in court. The Seoul "regime" also are trying a large number of pressmen who are critical of it. Who has brought the north-south dialogue to a complete mess?

Rev. Ham Sok Hon had this to say in his "Advice to President Pak Jung Hi" dated March 1:

"You are neither respected nor loved by the people. No matter how deep the allegiance of your men and your party members to you may be, it doesn't mean that the people love and respect you. It is necessary for you to feel just as the ordinary people do.

Do you know the reason why the people don't like you? I think it is because you do not try to come into contact with the people, open your heart to them or understand them. Have you ever shown a smile to the people? Have you ever walked among the people, waving your hands to them? Have you ever talked with the people about what they want? Are you humble or modest enough to call yourself one of the people?"

Dialogue for Reunification

Pak Jung Hi shamelessly asks the north to come out to the north-south dialogue unconditionally in disregard of the opinion of the south Korean people aspiring after an independent, peaceful reunification of the country. He is trying to deceive the people with a formal "dialogue for the sake of dialogue."

After deliberation, the north and the south made public the principle to be followed in the dialogue, which spells out the aims of dialogue—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.

It is a hard fact that the north has established a socialist system, regarding communism as its ultimate political aim and that the south continues the capitalist system which regards liberal democracy as its political ideal. The July 4, 1972 north-south joint statement stipulates that great national unity must be accomplished for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country, overriding the differences of ideals and systems between the north and the south.

The Seoul "regime" said that the "anti-communist" system should be strengthened to defend south Korea from the threat of the communist system in the northern half. This runs counter to the joint statement and increases distrust between the north and the south. If the south Korean side continues to pursue the "anti-communist" policy, no successful north-south dialogue can be held because of increased distrust. It will finally lead to a tragic fratricide.

The south Korean side wants to prevent great national unity by conducting intensified "anti-communist" campaigns to increase confrontation between the north and the south. It went so far as to make public a "special statement" on June 23, 1973, in order to take "two Koreas" as its policy.

In order to resume a dialogue for reunification, the Korean people must, first of all, remove an obstacle in the way of a north-south dialogue and take a concrete step to ease confrontation. To this end, discussions should be held as early as possible on reunification so that conditions and an atmosphere may be created to allow the entire Korean people to take part in a dialogue for reunification. The south Korean side should throw away its pistol from its hand so that both sides may shake hands. (To be continued)

"S. Korea-U.S.-Japan Joint Exercise" Staged

Troops Readied for Action in Okinawa

From March to April, the so-called "south Korea-U.S.-Japan joint operation" exercise" was carried out in the East Sea of Korea, and in the sea near Pohan in North Kyongsang Province in south Korea. The joint operational exercise called "Team Spirit," was a coordinated one including "landing operations," "bombing exercise" and "long-range air transport operation." At the same time, Japan's Self-Defense Forces carried out the so-called "troop concentration exercise" in Kyushu, Japan.

According to press reports from Tokyo, the exercise was staged with the mobilization of scores of Okinawa-based F-4E fighter bombers and most of the fighter bombers at the U.S. base at Iwakuni and the U.S. Seventh Fleet aircraft career Midway from Yokosuka Port.

Due to a thorough news black-out by the south Korean authorities, it is hardly possible to get a full story of the exercise. The press section of the U.S. base at Kadena in Okinawa reported, however, that "this operational exercise is called 'Team Spirit' and the purpose is to afford to commoders, staffs, corps opportunities to master ground, naval and air operations.

The report clearly shows that the exercise was carried out to strengthen the ground, naval and air forces so as to make them ready to go into action on the Korean Peninsula.

From the strategic point of view, the exercise was divided into the following four stages:

1. Preparations (for two weeks before the start of the exercise)
2. Outbreak of a dispute (from Mar. 15)
3. Troops readied for action (from Mar. 19)
4. Start of the exercise (from Apr. 1)

In the preparation stage, the puppet south Korean navy carried out from Mar. 1 a battle practice in the south-east of Koje-do Island in the South Sea. During the same period, the U.S. Second Marine Division carried out an exercise in the central zone of the Military Demarcation Line.

Exercise against "Potential Enemy"

From Mar. 19 to 22, the U.S. Pacific Air Force completed arrangements for "Limited Operational Inspection"—emergency battle formation to inspect combat readiness in case a war should break out in Korea.

Though it is impossible to grasp the activities of the three air forces—the U.S. air force in south Korea, the puppet south Korean air force and the Japan Air Self-Defense Force— it is remarkable ,that the U.S. State Department on the same day reported that bombing exercise by B-52 fighter-bombers would be continued all over south Korea for an indefinite period under the Carter administration.

Why did the U.S. State Department announced at that time its plan to continue bombing exercise by B-52?

After the U.S. Pacific Air Force issued an order to be combat-ready, the U.S. military forces in Okinawa, Iwakuni, and Yokosuka were thrown into confusion.

After the three-weeks' exercise, the U.S. Second Marine Division started to carry out an offensive exercise from Mar. 15 against a "potential enemy." On Mar. 11 the puppet south Korean ground forces joined in the exercise, and a "south Korea-U.S.-Japan joint shooting practice" was carried out in the sea off the coasts facing the South Sea.

Full Use of U.S. Bases in Okinawa, Iwakuni, Yokosuka

First of all, from March 21 infantry and artillery units of the U.S. Third Marine Division stationed in Okinawa, F-4E Phantoms of the U.S. 18th Tactical Fighter Wing, fighter-bombers of the U.S. First Marine Division in Iwakuni, had been ordered to move into south Korea.

Moreover, on Mar. 22 the U.S. Seventh Fleet air craft career Midway set sail from Yokonuka Port.

The Japan's Self-Defense Forces was also thrown into confusion, following the move of U.S. army. On Mar. 21 when the U.S. force in Japan started moving to south Korea, it was confirmed that some ships which appeared to be ASDF ships, anchored near the U.S. base in Iwakuni.

Especially, from Mar. 22 to 26 when the Midway set sail from Yokosuka, the "U.S.-Japan joint exercise" was staged in the sea off the Izu Peninsula.

Though the exercise was carried out in the sea off the Izu Peninsula, it is probably related to the "south Korea-U.S. joint operational exercise," in view of its period and the kinds of exercise.

Measures to Cope with Withdrawal

As a "finishing touch" to these exercises, the large-scale joint operational exercise of the land, sea and air forces was carried out for ten days from Apr. 1 to 10 in the sea near Pohang, North Kyongsang Province, south Korea.

According to press reports from Seoul, during the exercise, the "south Korea-U.S.-Japan three Services joint exercise" was carried out in the central zone of the Military Demarcation Line.

On the other hand, tank units of the puppet south Korean army carried out an exercise to occupy "important military establishments" in the Kwangju district, South Cholla Province.

Especially it is remarkable that during the exercise, a "long-range air transport operation," coupled with a "landing operation" and "bombing exercise," was staged.

In March about 100 air force officers disguising crew members of sky truck C-141s entered the U.S. base at Iwakuni via U.S.-Hawaii-Guam-Kwajeline-Kadena-south Korea-Yokohama route.

From March 21, about 10 C-141 sky trucks continued taking off from and landing on Okinawa almost everyday.

This operation was the first since the "long-range air transport operation" called "Focus Retina" (in 1969) and "Freedom Vault" (in 1971), which were staged under Nixon administration to cope with a partial reduction of the U.S. ground forces in south Korea, were aimed at revamping or strengthening the "remote deterrent system" of the U.S. forces.

But, there are so many differences between the latest exercise and those carried out under the Nixon administration, and the formation contains a new element.

First, it was combined with "landing and bombing operations," and was coupled with a "long-range air transport operation."

Second, Japan's Self-Defense Forces joined in the exercise as a new trend.

The movement exercise was carried out by the GSDF on March 20. No movement exercise in Kyushu had been conducted since the Nixon administration. The special feature of the exercise was that the SDF's did not conduct it alone but that it was related to the "south Korea-U.S. joint operational exercise." In other words, it was carried out after the Japanese authorities had stressed the role of neighbouring countries in the general principle of its new defense buildup plan.

Moreover, just before the exercise was carried out, a joint air force exercise among the U.S. air forces in south Korea, Okinawa, and the Japan's Air Self-Defense Force called "Coop Diamond" was carried out. This is the first joint operation between the U.S. forces in Okinawa and Japan's Self-Defense Forces.

The Japanese press said that the exercise was just for air defense and emergency air operations, but it appears that the exercise was not confined to air defense.

According to some experts, the exercise was intended as one aimed at maintaining the supremacy of the air in violation of the Matsumae-Burns agreement which was concluded in 1959.

As already mentioned, the latest large-scale exercise includes new elements not observable in the past exercises. In order to cope with the phased withdrawal of the U.S. ground forces from south Korea, Japan's Self-Defense Forces and the puppet military forces pledged to assume greater defense responibilities and play a specially important role in the U.S. imperialist aggression on Korea.

On the other hand, on April 19 just after the latest exercise, a meeting of the 4th U.S.-Japan Defense Cooperation Sub-committee was held. The committee decided to establish three specialist divisions.

On the basis of the results of the exercise, the three divisions will work out plans to reorganize and strengthen the "south Korea-U.S.-Japan joint operational exercise system."

The above-mentioned trends clearly show that the "defense" policy of south Korean rulers is already geared to cope with the withdrawal of U.S. forces from south Korea reaffirmed by the south "Korea clause" in the joint statement between Fukuda and Carter. This shows that Japan has come to play an important role in the Far East.

Nuclear-armed U.S. carrier Midway set sail from homeport Yokosuka after the Panmunjom Incident, August, 1976.

Photo shows one scene of the "Team Spirit" exercise—the "south Korea-U.S.-Japan joint operational exercise" in March, this year.

"Firing Case" Denounced as Fiction

PYONGYANG, May 4 (KCNA)—The south Korean puppet clique and the "UN Command" in south Korea are claiming that on the morning of May 3 military personnel of our side crossed the Military Demarcation Line and fired at south Korean puppet army soldiers on patrol duty near the southern boundary of the demilitarized zone.

This is a sheer fabrication. None of military personnel of our side has ever crossed the Military Demarcation Line into the area of the south Korean side, much less fired at the south Korean puppet army soldiers.

Why are the south Korean puppet clique kicking up a row against our side after fabricating a fictitious "case"?

It is designed to deliberately increase tension in Korea and thus justify the U.S. troops' occupation of south Korea and invent a pretext to keep the U.S. troops as ever in south Korea.

It also pursues the aim of taking the edge off the world public denunciation of the south Korean puppets' flagrant violations of human rights and divert ing elsewhere the attention of the world people.

No matter what "case" the south Korean puppet clique may fabricate to mislead world public opinion, it annot cover up their cra fty movesc

S. Korea's "Measures for Export Promotion" Failed

Recently, the "measures for export promotion" taken by the Pak clique have been increasing difficulties for south Korea, as the world-wide depression deepens.

On April 13, when Chang Re Chung, "director of the commercial and industrial department" of south Korea, was visiting the US, around 500,000 American employees in the manufacturing and the textile industries called a strike, demanding restrictions on the import of "low-cost textile goods" made in south Korea. The Pak Jung Hi clique was shocked by the strike.

South Korea accounted for 32 per cent (632 million dollars) and India 21 per cent last year's textile import of the US. Owing to textiles dumped on the US some US textile enterprises went bankrupt and many American workers in the industry were made jobless.

South Korea's export to the US last year totaled 1,963 million dollars and import 530 million dollars enabling south Korea to record a trade surplus of 1,433 million dollars. US enterprises and trade unions concerned took issue with this. The increase in the export to the US is almost due to the exploitation of south Korean workers and "dumping" at the expense of domestic industry. The Carter administration will intensify import restrictions on south Korean textiles enterprises and workers.

South Korea's trade with Japan is more serious.

According to data released on April 15 by Chin Son Hwan, "vice-minister of the commercial and industrial department" of south Korea, south Korea's export to Japan last year totaled 1,801 million dollars and import 3,098 million dollars, so that a deficit of 1,297 million dollars was recorded. South Korea's trade deficit with Japan will increase, as Japan intensifies import restrictions. South Korea's export of textiles to Japan totaled 681 million dollars, aquatic products 356.9 million dollars and oil products 70.3 million dollars. The total export reached only 3 per cent of the total import of Japan. South Korea's imports from Japan are made mostly by the "ROK"-Japan joint ventures and are manufactured goods. As Japan intensifies import restrictions on south Korean products, south Korea is asking for an immediate solution of the trade in balance. South Korea's rate dependence on imports from Japan is 35.3 per cent. In contrast, Japan's rate of dependence on imports from south Korea is only 2.2 per cent. South Korea's trade deficit with Japan totaled 7,910 million dollars in 12 years from 1965 to 1976. No prospect is obtained for the redressing adverse of its trade in balance. Because south Korea's imports from Japan are mostly equipment and raw materials (south Korea's rate of dependence on raw materials from Japan is 40 per cent for general raw materials and 60 per cent for raw materials for production of goods for export.) On the other hand, south Korea's exports to Japan are mostly primary products for the light industry and aquatic products. South Korea's exports to Japan will decrease in accordance with the intensification of import restrictions by Japan.

It is said that the Pak clique plans to expand the scale of foreign trade to 10 billion dollars this year and further to achieve trade turn over target of 20 billion dollars in 1980, the last year of the forth 5-year plan of south Korea.

According to a report dated Mar. 25 by the "south Korean trade association," about 30 countries took measures for import restrictions such as the checking of imports, enforcement of penalties, import prohibition, raised customs and anti-dumping taxes. Among them are the US, Canada, Japan, England, France, Australia, Sweden, Portugal, Venezuela and Iran.

Besides, according to the south Korean daily paper "Tonga Ilbo" dated Mar. 16, foreign investments in south Korea are decreasing.

Foreign investments in south Korea totaled 262 million dollars in 271 cases in 1973 (mostly by Japanese enterprises), while foreign investments in south Korea last year amounted to only 65.1 million dollars in 44 cases. Foreign investments to south Korea 14,095 million dollars in the first three months of this year.

The south Korean economy is plagued by a depression and rising prices and is in a state of near collapse.

S. Korean Workers Denied Their Rights

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique have converted south Korea into an object, of unbridled plunder for the foreign aggressors and comprador capitalists. They have shackled the south Korean workers to the medieval fetters and an intensifying the harsh exploitation and oppression of the workers, imposing calamities and sufferings upon them.

The main form in the inhumane exploitation of the south Korean workers by the puppet clique and rapacious employers is the extension of working hours.

The puppet clique revised the old "basic law on labour" for the worse to suck more sweat and blood of the workers and took the rigorous step of extending the working hours and heightening the labour intensity. In February last they trumped up another evil law called "regulations for the enforcement of the basic law on working practice" to extend the workday by two hours.

The workers are forced to work 12-18 hours, even 20 hours, a day due to the ever intensified plunder by the puppet clique and villainous employers.

Worse yet, the work sites are devoid of any labour safety devices.

The number of labour accidents is growing year after year in south Korea.

In 1975 it rose 54 times as against 1964, and in 1976, it surpassed 97,000, an increase of 16,850 over the figure of the previous year.

The brutal nature of exploitation by the puppet clique and the avaricious employers is all the more salient in the payment of wages.

The wages of the south Korean workers are murderous starvation ones which are hardly enough for the reproduction of labor force, to say nothing of the minimum living cost.

More than 60 per cent of the metal workers in Riri, North Cholla Province, are paid the starvation wages less than one-eighth of the minimum living cost announced by the puppet clique.

They also slice off the workers wages through the collection of scores of kinds of taxes, such as the "inhabitants' tax," "defence tax" and "income tax." The wages are also cut off through the payment of "cost of company management," "mutual aid money" and so on.

By sharply raising commodity prices the puppet clique systematically decrease the real wages of the workers to make their life more difficult.

They jerked up in 1976 prices of consumer goods over 2.3 times as against 1970, of which the prices of foodstuff shows an increase of 2.7 times and that of fuel 2.1 times.

The south Korean workers are also suffering from diseases caused by slave labour and hard working conditions.

According to data released by the puppet clique, the number of cases of occupational diseases rose 44 times in 1973 compared with 1964 and 5 times in 1975 as against 1974.

S. Korean Anti-Popular "Budget"

The south Korean puppets are working at fever pitch to perpetuate the division of the country, dead set against its reunification.

Such treachery of the puppet clique finds vivid manifestation in their "budget."

This year, for example, the puppets' "budget" is tailored to earmark 87.9 per cent of its outlays for war preparations. Here the direct military spendings represent 34.8 per cent of the "budgetary" expenditures.

This is military appropriations of "biggest scale," more than 55 times those in 1960, the year before the Pak Jung Hi traitor clique clawed its way to the seat of puppet power.

The puppets increase indirect military spendings, too. This year they lifted the "appropriations for economic development" included in this category by 33.3 per cent over last year's to account for 21 per cent of the "budgetary" outlays.

This reveals the scheme of the puppets to build what they call "strategic industry."

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique has also sharply increased the "general administrative expenses" in this year's "budget" for the maintenance of the fascist rule. The puppets seek in this to drastically increase the repressive forces, in personnel and tools, for a harsher crackdown upon the people.

While increasing the outlays for military and repressive purposes, the puppet clique remains clean indifferent to putting into proper shape the devasted agriculture which brings bad crops every year and the miserable fisheries and has cut by a wide margin this year even the nominal "appropriations for housing and environment improvement," though countless people are roaming about without a roof over their heads or living in rented houses.

These facts indicate that the south Korean "budget" is a reactionary one designed to increase tension by hastening war preparations and intensify suppression of the people desirous of the reunification of the country and the democratization of society and thus perpetuate the division of the country.

The puppet clique intends to cover the vast "budgetary" outlays for this year entirely with the money squeezed from the people. This is clear from its scheme to derive 93.9 per cent of the "budgetary" revenues from tax levies.

The puppets rendered more reactionary or newly manufactured in a mockery murderous tax laws to fleece the people by all brutal means and attain the tax extortion goal set in the "budget" at whatever cost.

On the other hand, the puppets cut by 23.8 per cent below last year the corporation business taxes owed by comprador capitalists and the privileged quarters and left a tax loophole for them by granting them privileges.

Yet the puppet clique has the effrontery to claim that this reactionary "budget" is one guaranteeing "a stability of the people's livelihood" and one "ending social instability."

But this is a foolish trumpeting for concealing the reactionary nature of this "budget" and pulling the wool over the eyes of the people. (KCNA)

New York Times:

South Korea: Our Indecent Ally

Follow excerpts from the April 24 The New York Times entitled "South Korea: Our Indecent Ally":

The news from South Korea is dismal and familiar. President Park is cracking down on political opponents again; midnight raids, arrests, surveillance, break-ins. More than 30,000 Americans died in South Korea's defense, and billions of dollars have been spent over a generation. But the South remains a police state. Must our sense of strategic obligation render us helpless against the most brazen violations of human rights?

Let us accept for the moment the assumptions of every American administration since the Korean War: that the defense of Korea involves the defense of Japan, which involved the balance of Pacific power with the Soviet Union and China, which involves the security of the United States. Accept President Carter's intention gradually to withdraw 33,000 American ground troops from South Korea, with careful notice to the Koreans and Japanese. Preventing a war that would surely involve the United States has been Washington's overriding objective.

So what can Americans do, particularly now that we have been aroused to the cause of human rights?

Do we let stand the impression that our security, even if accurately calculated in South Korea, supersedes all humanity? Doesn't our President write a letter to Kim Chi Ha, South Korea's foremost poet, who sits imprisoned for life for his anti-Government views? No word of sympathy from the White House for Kim Dae Jung, in prison for the crime of running against President Park in 1971 and obtaining 46 percent of the vote?

President Park may not respond to such rhetorical pressure. But some American investors and traders might respond, to the detriment of General Park's economy and claims of intimacy with the United States. Or some of his domestic opponents might take heart from the evidence that the American commitment extends to a people, and not to their dictator. In time, if there is no reform in South Korea, the denunciations might indeed erode American support for the commitment itself, but that would not be an immediate or inevitable consequence. Surely the errant rulers of South Korea should be more nervous about their ties to the United States than Americans are about ties to them. We cannot soon impose democracy on their country, but we have earned the right to demand decency.

Glimpse of South Korea

* The puppet Taegu district public procurator's office on April 19 "indicted" 48 young and middle-aged men for "violation of the enforcement regulations of the law on the establishment of the homeland defence reserve forces," according to a report from south Korea.

An increasing number of young and middle-aged men of south Korea are openly and collectively boycotting the training of the "homeland defence reserve forces" not to become cannon fodder of the U.S. imperialists and the puppet clique. According to doctored figures released by the puppet authorities, over 73,180 young and middle-aged men rejected the "homeland defence reserve forces" training last year. This is an increment of 2.3 times over that of 1975.

* More than 250 employees of the Midopa Department Store in Seoul gathered on the nearby Nam-san Hill on April 23 and started a sit-down strike demanding a 40 per cent wage hike, according to a report from Seoul.

They exposed the mean acts of the employer backed by the puppet clique to estrange the employees from each other by discriminative treatment and thus destroy their unity. They determined to have their immediate demand met by their united action.

* The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique on May 4 mobilized in a war exercise over 2,600 students of Konguk University in Seoul who had been pressganged into the "students homeland defence corps," according to a report from Seoul.

The puppet clique kicked up much ado about "raid of enemy planes" and "annihilation," forcing the students to carry rifles and make 24 kilometre march both ways between Seoul and Yangju county, Kyonggi Province.

The puppets mobilized even girl students and professors in this war exercise.

According to another report from Seoul, toward the end of April the puppet clique forcibly mobilised over 500 high school students in Seoul, equipped them with arms and forced them to the same war exercise in a 120 kilometre section from Seoul to Asan, South Chungchong Province.

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